Library of Congress

Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, August 25, 1793, with Fragment Copy, from The Works of Thomas Jefferson in Twelve Volumes. Federal Edition. Collected and Edited by Paul Leicester Ford.

TO JAMES MADISON MAD. MSS.

Aug. 25. 93.

You will perceive by the enclosed papers that Genet has thrown down the gauntlet to the President by the publication of his letter & my answer, and is himself forcing that appeal to the public, & risking that disgust, which I had so much wished should have been avoided. The indications from different parts of the continent are already sufficient to shew that the mass of the republican interest has no hesitation to disapprove of this intermeddling by a foreigner, & the more readily as his object was evidently, contrary to his professions, to force us into the war. I am not certain whether some of the more furious republicans may not schismatize with him.

The following arrangements are established.

Sept. 10. the Pr. sets out for Mt. Vernon, & will be here again the 30th. Oct. 5th or a little sooner I set out to be absent 6. weeks, by agreement. Consequently I shall be here again about Nov. 17. to remain to Dec. 31. I break up my house the last of Septemb. Shall leave my carriage & horses in Virginia & return in the stage, not to have the embarrassment of ploughing them through the mud in January. I shall take private lodgings on my return.

—Billy who is just going on a nautical expedition to Charlestown, called on me yesterday

